

# Commission's Grant Application Form

Shelby County Board of Commissioners

## **GRANT APPLICATION**

Legal Name of the Organization:	Douglass Cornerstone
EIN:	47-2110543
Street Address of Organization	1533 Orr St., Memphis, TN 38108
Office Phone:	(901) 315-0574
E-mail	<a href="mailto:douglasscornerstone@yahoo.com">douglasscornerstone@yahoo.com</a>

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## **EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

First Name	Mia
Last Name	Peete

(Section Break)

## **GENERAL CONTACT FOR THIS REQUEST(if other than Executive Director)**

First Name	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Last Name	<i>Field not completed.</i>
Title:	<i>Field not completed.</i>

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## **DESCRIPTION OF GRANT REQUEST**

Program/Project Area:	Administration of youth programs
Amount Requested	\$24,999.00
Total Organizational budget (for current year):	\$16,700.00

Total Project/Program Budget:	\$12,550.00
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Dates covered by this budget:	July 2016 - July 2017
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Project/Program Name:	Turn Up Today Assembly (TUTA)
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## INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND OF ORGANIZATION

Please summarize in a short paragraph the purpose of your agency. Briefly explain why your agency is requesting this grant, what outcomes you hope to achieve, and how you will spend the funds if a grant is made.

The purpose of Douglass Cornerstone is to offer youth programs and services developed to promote a solid foundation for future generations by addressing economic disparities by adopting strong educational values; mentoring solid spiritual and social principals; and fostering career planning and community outreach. This grant will allow Douglass Cornerstone to implement follow-up programs focused on reducing gang affiliation by creating a safe haven , reduce teen pregnancy by informational education material and decrease school drop-out by funding after-school educational activities, mentoring programs to empower positive life changing goals.

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## Narrative - Organization

Current programs and accomplishments. Please emphasize the achievements of the recent past.

Douglass Cornerstone offers community outreach and the following projects listed, including meals to the homeless of the Douglass Community: Mentor/Volunteer Appreciation Dinner; Easter Play; Attend Kids Across America Camp; Summer break Cook-out; Back to School Drive; Mentor Study Habit Sessions; Mentor sessions on "How to Hold yourself accountable?" and a Thanksgiving Dinner Fellowship Listed below are a few other ways the youth of Douglass Cornerstone serve the community and city of Memphis. The youths participate in the Unity Expo Parade. They also participated in the Faith in Action Memphis Cleanup event.

Numbers of paid full-time staff:	0
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Number of paid part-time staff:	0
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Number of volunteers: 6

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### **Narrative - Funding Request**

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Please describe the program/project for which you seek funding and include how it will benefit the general welfare of residents in Shelby County, TN.

The Turn Up Today Assembly (TUTA) after-school program commences in August and ends in May. In regards to the afterschool component, sessions are held once a week on Wednesdays from 3pm to 5pm. The program is currently serving 50 youth who reside in the Douglass Community. Participants are required to participate in some community service activities. Douglass Cornerstone divides the participants into two groups according to the participant's age. The first group is the youth group, with participants 9-12 years of age, and two adult volunteers lead this group, serving as mentors. The second group is the teenage group, 13-18 years of age, and has two adult volunteers serving in a leadership capacity. Each weekly session focuses on a particular topic related to leadership, life skills, or community/family values. Each lesson is presented in a group format, thereby allowing the participants to facilitate the session. In less than three years, Douglass Cornerstone has successfully created an impactful program, secured active volunteers, formed community partnerships, and garnered the support of the community. As the organization prepares to move forth, the organization is confident it can expand its services and confidently empower the youth in the community to become active participants in their own lives and in the community. It is for this reason, Douglass Cornerstone is confident TUTA is a natural fit for the Shelby County Commissioner Grant because The Turn Up Today Assembly provides an after-school program for 50 Shelby County impoverished youth ages 9-18 years of age providing mentoring, life and leadership skills, and activities promoting healthy living, in addition to providing academic enrichment and career readiness skills. More importantly, the program addresses the harmful effects of poverty, which often transcend generations. The following section will explore the organization's findings regarding the needs assessment, and the proposed solutions to decrease risk factors impeding the success of impoverished youth

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### **General Operating Support**

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If applying for general

With additional funding, Douglass Cornerstone, can provide a

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operating support, briefly describe how this grant will be used.

challenging and safe environment for youth who deserve the chance to secure and brighter future. More specifically, Douglass Cornerstone would use Shelby County Commissioner Grant funding to do the following: - Expand the number of days the program is offered from one day a week to five days - Hire additional staff and recruit additional volunteers to serve more participants and provide additional programmatic services. - Expand the needs assessment and evaluation component to create a continuum of care where Douglass Cornerstone can connect families to community • - Expand the programmatic services of the program by implementing a curriculum addressing leadership, life skills, and character education• -Expand the programmatic services of the program by implementing a curriculum addressing leadership, life skills, and character education - strengthen the infrastructure. With the methodology of improving the organization productivity and community impact additional funding is needed to expand our program, we need to ensure our infrastructure is strongly in place by acquiring funding to meet the necessary programmatic expenses. These costs include insurance, printing, marketing, and office supplies and equipment. We will visit community events Identify risk factors and barriers that negatively impact under-resourced youth in education, career and community; while implementing interventions that help students make the adjustments needed. •The Organization needs of TUTA will require hiring two permanent salary members to assist in mentoring and coaching the participants, and use the needs assessment to identify participants/families requiring a community referral.

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### **Project Support**

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Please explain the specific project including a statement of its primary purpose and the need or problem that you are seeking to address.

The Turn Up Today Assembly has collaborated and partnered with the Douglass Community Center to host the after school programming. The Douglass Community Center and Douglass Cornerstone, Inc. partnership has committed to providing access to equipment and facilities. The equipment and facilities available for The Turn Up Today Assembly staff use include office equipment and furnishings (desks, computer, telephone equipment); multimedia equipment on a checkout basis from the target school libraries; auditorium, conference, meeting rooms and classroom access; computer lab access to equipment and software; and transportation support including buses, vans, and cars. The contract and amount committed is

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forthcoming. Currently the participant cost in this program is free. However, with the Shelby County Commissioner Grant funding, the program could offer additional services and serve more economically disadvantaged youth. Douglass Cornerstone is truly excited about its premier program, The Turn Up Today Assembly and is actively seeking additional support to connect with youth who would benefit from the services provided. As previously stated, The Turn Up Today Assembly partnership with the Douglass Community Center has permitted The Turn Up Today Assembly to leverage its resources. The program has successfully acquired over \$18,000 in individual donor support thus far. The organization has an Executive Director on fixed income who is managing and operating Douglass Cornerstone programs and project solely from donations and her monthly income. Securing additional funding will allow the organization to provide sessions five times a week and serve more youth and free more indigent citizens of Memphis. Moreover, acquiring funding would allow the organization to offer services, which would benefit the participants. The program is currently housed in the Douglass Community Center; however, the organization would like to secure its own building in the future. The Shelby County and City of Memphis benefit most by donating a sound building to this non-profit organization to expand their services and reach higher long-range goal in the future.

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How does the project contribute to your organization's overall mission?

To ensure Douglass Cornerstone's TUTA program is an effective program, each potential participant completes a needs assessment. This needs assessment answers questions addressing the participants' emotional, academic, familial, economic, and physical resources needs. After undergoing an extensive community needs assessment, and analyzing the participant data, the analysis revealed an alarming increase in risk factors impacting the overall success of under-resourced and underserved youth reared in low income homes. More importantly, the data reflects the current literature regarding youth reared in poverty. More importantly, organizations, such as Douglass Cornerstone, are uniquely positioned to serve as a pipeline to transition not only children, but families out of poverty. Sending children to school buildings is not enough to address the poverty epidemic. A two prong approach addressing the educational and community components is necessary, as it shifts the responsibility from an institution to the parent, family, and community. With additional funding,

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Douglass Cornerstone, can provide a challenging and safe environment for youth who deserve the chance to secure a brighter future. More specifically, Douglass Cornerstone would use Shelby County Commissioner Grant funding to do the following: • Expand the number of days the program is offered from one day a week to five days • Hire additional staff and recruit additional volunteers to serve more participants and provide additional programmatic services. • Expand the needs assessment and evaluation component to create a continuum of care where Douglass Cornerstone can connect families to community services. • Expand the programmatic services of the program by implementing a curriculum addressing leadership, life skills, and character education.

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### **Narrative - Evaluation**

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Please explain how you will measure the effectiveness of your activities. Describe your criteria for a successful program and the results you expect to have achieved by the end of the funding period.

The Turn Up Today Assembly serves low income, marginalized, youth of all ethnic groups residing in Memphis, TN, the designated county seat for Shelby County. Memphis is the largest city in Shelby County, boasting a population of 647,780 according to the 2011 U.S. Census Bureau estimate Memphis is the 20th largest city in the United States; and the third largest southeastern city. The population of Shelby County is Tennessee's largest county both in population and geographic area, with a population of 927,644 constituents. Additionally, Shelby County is part of the Memphis Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA), which comprises eight counties in the three states of Tennessee, Mississippi, and Arkansas. The Turn Up Today Assembly serves the MSA with an estimated population of 1,324,1086. The Turn Up Today Assembly serves an area facing many educational and socioeconomic challenges, and it is no secret that Memphis is plagued by poverty. In fact, Memphis is plagued with some of the nation's lowest average household incomes and a high percentage of families living in poverty. Memphis has the second highest poverty rate among cities with more than one million people. Memphis has the third highest child poverty rate for cities with populations over 500,000 people. A total of 89,509 households in the City of Memphis (34.4 percent of all households) have annual incomes of less than \$25,000. However, from 2000 to 2011, 33.4 percent of residents within Memphis city limits and 42.5 percent of residents in Memphis suburbs resided in

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poverty.. In Memphis over 13 percent are unemployed, compared to 8 percent of unemployment rate for Tennessee. The following table provides a detailed profile of low income youth residing in Memphis, TN, and risk factors that may impede their success.

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Attachments:

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If your request is under \$25,000 please attach the following:

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1. Copy of the entity's 501 (c) 3 certificate for charitable organizations or 501 (c) 4 certificate for civic organizations

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2. Most recent IRS Form 990 or Financial Statements (balance sheet and income statement) as of the most recent fiscal year end certified by Chief Financial Officer/Treasurer of the entity.

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3. Complete Budget for grant request

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If your request is \$25,000 or more please attach the following:

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1. Copy of the entity's 501 (c) 3 certificate for charitable organizations or 501 (c) 4 certificate for civic organizations

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2. Copy of an annual audit as of a date within 18 months of the start of the current fiscal year.

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3. Complete Budget for grant request

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File 2	<i>Field not completed.</i>
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File 3	<i>Field not completed.</i>
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ACKNOWLEDGEMENT:

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Read, and if you agree to the provisions, sign the following:

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The information provided has been submitted in good faith and as completely as our records and recollections permit.

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I understand that the information provided in this application shall be open to inspection upon filing with the office of the Shelby County Board of Commissioners.

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Signature:	Mia Peete
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Printed Name:	Mia Peete
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Date

5/18/2016

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